Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the present patent application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A mobile handset comprising:

a housing having a key opening and a transparent area integrally associated with the housing;

a graphical element positioned adjacent the key opening and on the transparent area, the graphical element being indicative of a key function, wherein said graphical element is located on a front portion of said housing; and

a backlighting source within the mobile handset and constructed to illuminate at least a portion of the transparent area.

Claim 2 (original). The device of claim 1 wherein the backlighting source comprises at least one source selected from the group consisting of an electroluminescent panel and an array of light emitting diodes.

Claim 3 (original). The device of claim 1 wherein the transparent area comprises a translucent area.

Claim 4 (original). The device of claim 1 further comprising at least one layer of an opaque coating upon at least a portion of the transparent area.

Claim 5 (original). The device of claim 4 wherein the graphical element comprises a negative image within the coating.

Claim 6 (original). The device of claim 5 wherein the graphical element comprises at least one type of graphical element selected from the group consisting of laser-etched graphical elements, pad-printed graphical elements, and in-mold decorated graphical elements.

Claim 7 (original). The device of claim 1 wherein the graphical element comprises at least one type of graphical element selected from the group consisting of painted opaque graphical elements, pad-printed opaque graphical elements, and in-mold decorated opaque graphical elements.

Claim 8 (original). The device of claim 1 wherein the housing and the graphical element comprise an in-molded graphical element.

Claim 9 (original). The device of claim 8 further comprising at least one layer of an opaque coating on the non-graphics surface area of the housing.

Claim 10 (original). The device of claim 8 further comprising at least one layer of an opaque coating on the graphics surface area of the housing.

Claim 11 (currently amended). A mobile handset comprising:

a translucent housing having an outer and inner surface;

at least one layer of an opaque coating upon at least said outer surface of said housing;

graphical elements located on at least said housing outer surface, said graphical elements positioned adjacent key openings on said housing and being indicative of a key function, and comprising a negative image within said coating so as to expose said housing outer surface through said graphical elements; and

a backlighting source located within said housing for enhancing the visibility of said graphical elements, said backlighting source comprising at least one source selected from the group consisting of an electroluminescent panel and an array of light emitting diodes.

Claim 12 (currently amended). In a mobile handset comprising a split housing defining front and back portions, the front portion carrying a key pad including a plurality of spaced apart keys arranged in a convenient manner to permit user access to telephonic functions, a power source, a backlighting source such as an electroluminescent panel, and graphical elements including a plurality of symbols each corresponding to one or more telephonic functions, the improvement comprising:

at least the front portion of said housing formed from light transmitting material;

an opaque layer covering selected portions of said light transmitting housing front portion defining the edges of the graphical elements, wherein said graphical elements are located on said front portion of said light transmitting housing; and

the electroluminescent panel arranged within the housing so that visible light is emitted through areas of said housing front portions not covered by said opaque layer.